

## MINUTES

### KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MAY 3, 2016

PLACE: Room 207A, County Administration Building

TIME: 4:00 p.m. – 6:24 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners John Gisler, Jeff Heppler, Scott McGraw, Stephanie Moore, Larry Provancher, Julie Rogers, Michael Seals, Dale Shugars, John Taylor, and Kevin Wordelman

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Roger Tuinier

OTHERS PRESENT: Tracie Moored, John Faul, Thom Canny, Dina Sutton, Jeff Getting, Pat Crowley, Eric McNamara, Lisa Bradshaw, Randy Winterowd, Rachel Grover, Rick Fuller

Chairman Taylor convened the Committee of the Whole at 4:00 p.m.

1. Review of Transfers and Disbursements

Ms. Tracie Moored, Finance Director stated claims for May 3, 2016 totaled \$1,630,278.31.

2. Alcott Street – Construction Manager Interview Recommendations & Option to Purchase Property Update

Chairman Taylor indicated the subcommittee met and had recommendations for the Construction Manager for the Board. He also stated the Board had a lot of decisions to make concerning how to proceed with the property.

Mr. John Faul, Interim County Administrator, stated a contract with Eckert Wordell would be forthcoming at the next meeting.

Mr. Faul stated the subcommittee had met and the summary of information was included in the packet and the committee recommended interviewing CSM Group, Miller Davis, and Walbridge at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Vice Chairman Heppler questioned interviewing Walbridge and Commissioner Wordelman stated he had a lot of positive input about Walbridge concerning the work they had done locally.

Commissioner Rogers stated in the summary it appeared Walbridge had not completed all of the necessary information and Mr. Thom Canny, Corporate Counsel, stated Walbridge had not been asked these questions when they became a qualified bidder as they qualified under the former policy and stated Walbridge would complete the new bid form.

Commissioner Rogers asked if Walbridge could complete the new form prior to interviews and Mr. Canny indicated yes.

Commissioner McGraw would like to know how many local employees were employed by Walbridge and felt that information would be necessary to have prior to being interviewed.

Commissioner Seals stated he had concerns with CSM not utilizing local subcontractors.

Mr. Faul stated it would be beneficial to County Administration if the Board would have a discussion and give direction to Administration as to how to proceed with the Alcott Street Property.

He stated the City had proposed two options:

- 1) Purchase the original 3 acres for \$300,000 and pay \$25,000/year for 15 years at a total cost of \$675,000
- 2) Purchase 5 acres at \$300,000 and pay \$25,000/year for 20 years and move the Administration Building occupants to Alcott Street for a total cost of \$800,000.

Mr. Faul stated there were a lot of unknowns. He stated to relocate IS to Alcott would cost approximately \$2,000,000; there were still uncertainties of the future location of the Courts. He stated Administration felt it would be best to focus the discussion on the HCS Facility at this time.

Chairman Taylor stated he agreed with Mr. Faul. He stated he didn't feel it was in the best interest of the County to hold off at this point.

Commissioner Seals inquired if the second round of environmental had been received and Mr. Canny stated the County held off until doing soil samples until it was able to secure an architect who would be able to work with an environmental company to get the best soil samples.

Commissioner Seals stated he was concerned with not knowing how much money it would cost to remediate the soil and land for the HCS Facility.

Commissioner Wordelman stated he was puzzled by the City's proposals; however, he felt the County should move forward and purchase the 5 acres so that there would be sufficient land for the HCS Facility.

Commissioner Rogers stated she too was confused by the proposals made by the City. She inquired about the possibility of land swap.

Mr. Faul indicated the City of Kalamazoo was not interested in that. He urged caution to the Board about giving up land downtown as the County did not know if it would need land for a new Courthouse.

Commissioner Rogers stated she still had concerns about moving HCS to this site as it was not a campus feel and the City needed to help with busing to assist the citizens using the facilities. She stated city scaping needed to be done and the City needed to step up and do that.

Commissioner McGraw stated he had concerns with discussing this in an Open Meeting.

Commissioner McGraw moved and it was duly seconded that the Board of Commissioners go into Closed Session pursuant to Sections 8 (d) of the Open Meetings Act to consider the purchase of real property.

There being no discussion, the motion carried by a voice vote.

Commissioner Moore arrived at 4:26 p.m.

### 3. Indigent Defense Overview Discussion

Mr. Thom Canny, Corporate Counsel, reviewed his memo as included in the packet. He stated this process would have many changes over the next several years.

Chairman Taylor inquired if there was any anticipation of the costs that would be reimbursed to the County and Mr. Canny indicated there was not. That was why he felt a Committee needed to be formed so discussions could occur and a plan could be put into place.

Chairman Taylor stated a question that needed to be answered was who the Indigent Defense Group would report to.

Commissioner Seals stated he felt a Commissioner should serve on the committee and as well as having diversity representation.

Commissioner Rogers suggested forming an Ad Hoc Committee to start planning now.

Commissioner Moore stated she liked a lot of the items being proposed by the State. She also stated she supported diversity on the committee, including Hispanics. She also stated it was critical that the committee was being representative of the community.

Commissioner Provancher stated it was important to have privacy for individuals when meeting with their attorneys.

Commissioner Wordelman stated the County needed to look at crime prevention to help offset the costs. He stated there were two stakeholders and one was the indigent defenders themselves and the other stakeholders were the public defenders themselves and would like them to work together and come up with a plan how to run it.

Chairman Taylor stated the State was only doing this because they had been sued.

Discussion ensued.

Vice Chairman Heppler stated he agreed that a small group of commissioners should meet and discuss with other local leaders.

Chairman Taylor stated he would speak with Judge Schma and see if he would be interested in meeting and discussing the next steps. He indicated Commissioners Seals, Moore, Provancher, and Heppler would be interested in serving.

#### 4. Any other items

Commissioner Wordelman indicated there was an election party at the FOP tonight.

Commissioner Wordelman stated he started attending the Coalition of Common Ground meetings and on June 2<sup>nd</sup> there would be National Gun Violence Awareness Day in Kalamazoo County and he would like to adopt a Resolution supporting this at the next meeting.

Commissioner Moore stated she received a message from Dr. Leipman about the Citizens United item and Chairman stated no language had come forward to the Board.

Sheriff Fuller updated the Board concerning the Jail was facing a nursing shortage. He stated an RFP had been requested and was being reviewed. He stated a temporary solution was going to be needed prior to making the determination on the contract.

Commissioner Rogers stated she was supportive of this process as it would provide consistency and stability.

Vice Chairman Heppler inquired about the cost and the Sheriff stated the cost had not been determined yet.

Commissioner McGraw inquired of the Sheriff if the cost would increase and Sheriff Fuller stated he wouldn't be able to answer that question due to the situations being different.

Mr. Canny stated the short bridging contract would be on the May 17, 2016 agenda for approval.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Seals stated he received a question about the status of the SoDA project in Oshtemo Township and Commissioner Shugars indicated there was a meeting being held tomorrow and he would provide an update to the Board.

5. Executive Session

There was no other Executive Session.

6. Adjournment – no later than 6 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Taylor adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

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John Taylor, Chairman  
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners